

## Statement by Metinvest Group

Some media outlets have reported absolutely false information that the Ukrainian Azov Special Operations Detachment is allegedly transporting civilians from Mariupol to workshops of Azovstal that have been "mined" (rigged with explosives). A certain "People's Militia Department" of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic claims that civilians are being brought to Azovstal and placed in "mined" workshops and offices at the plant.



Metinvest responsibly declares that the plant's workshops are not "mined" and that this statement by the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic is, as usual, a lie and a provocation in the information war on the part of Russia and the pseudo-republics. At present, many civilians in Mariupol are indeed taking refuge in the workshops of the Group's Mariupol factories. As some of the safest and most protected structures in the city, they are now being used as bomb shelters during wartime.

At this difficult time for Ukraine, Metinvest urges all journalists to do their job diligently and, instead of spreading fakes, engage in unbiased reporting by double-checking each piece of news with official sources.